Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02 EB-07 AID-05 COME-00 TRSE-00 SIL-01 LAB-04 /075 W

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R 031526Z MAY 77 FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4632

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EFIN

SUBJECT: GOE ANNOUNCES "ADMINISTRATIVE REVOLUTION"

1. MAY 2 CAIRO PRESS HEADLINED OPENING VOLLEY OF GOE
"ADMINISTRATIVE REVOLUTION". ACCORDING TO PRESS, ALL STATE
AGENCIES HAVE BEEN ORDERED IMMEDIATELY TO DEVELOP NEW
MEASURES TO CUT RED TAPE AND FACILITATE DEALINGS WITH
CITIZENS. AMONG STEPS TO BE TAKEN IS PUBLICATION OF FIXED
TIMETABLES FOR PERFORMANCE OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES. EGYPTIAN
SUBJECTS WILL BE ABLE TO ASCERTAIN FROM TABLES HOW LONG A
PARTICULAR SERVICE IS LIKELY TO TAKE, THEREBY MINIMIZING
UNNECESSARY TRIPS TO GOVERNMENT OFFICES. DIRECTIVES ALSO
CALL FOR FORMATION OF CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEES TO WORK
WITH GOVERNMENT AGENCIES TO DEVELOP NEW MEANS OF STREAMLINING OPERATIONS.

2. GOE CONCERN HIGHLIGHTED IN SPEECH BY PRIMIN MAMDUH SALEM TO ADMINISTRATIVE DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE. CITING STUDIES BY INTERNATIONAL EXPERTS AND ORGANIZATIONS, SALEM STATED THAT MANY OF GOE'S ECONOMIC PROBLEMS ARE ATTRIBUTABLE TO LACK OF EFFECTIVE ADMINISTRATION IN ALL SECTORS OF GOVERNMENT. ACCORDING TO SALEM, GOE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BEGAN MAY 1 TO TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION ON FOREIGN INVESTMENT, PUBLIC HOUSING AND ECONOMIC/FINANCIAL SECTORS - THREE AREAS OF PARTICULAR CONCERN. HOUSING SECTOR HAS GREAT IMPACT ON LIVES OF EGYPTIANS AND GOE IS DETERMINED TO FACILITATE ISSUANCE OF CONSTRUCTION LICENSES, LOANS, DELIVERY OF BUILDING MATERIALS AND ESTABLISHMENT OF ADEQUATE WATER AND SEWAGE SYSTEMS. SALEM ALSO STATED

THAT CONSTRUCTION OF THREE NEW SATELLITE CITIES, (RAMADAN 10 AL AMRIYA AND SADAT CITY) WILL BEGIN IMMEDIATELY.

- 3. EMPHASIZING IMPORTANCE OF FOREIGN INVESTMENT TO EGYPT, SALEM CALLED FOR DEVELOPMENT OF NEW PRODUCTS AIMED AT RAISING EGYPTIAN STANDARD OF LIVING AND PROVIDING NEW EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES. PM SAID GOE WILL ALSO CONCENTRATE ON IMPROVING ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL SECTOR, ESPECIALLY IN AREAS CONCERNED WITH TAXATION, CUSTOMS, AND BANKING.
- 4. COMMENT. "ADMINISTRATIVE REVOLUTION" IS A CATCHY PHRASE FOR PROGRAM OF IMPROVEMENT INITIATED BY LATE MINSTATE SHARIF, WHO WAS ADVOCATE OF CONCEPT OF MANAGEMENT BY OBJECTIVES. FACT THAT GOE FIGURE OF SALEM'S STRUCTURE KICKED OFF THE CAMPAIGN SUGGESTS THAT GOE WISHES REFORMS TO BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY. REFORM OF ANY BUREAUCRACY IS A DIFFICULT TASK, HOWEVER, AND IN EGYPT IT WILL BE PARTICULARLY HARD. IT IS ALSO PARTICULARLY NECESSARY. EILTS

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